

	MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES CHILD AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM EMERGENCY/HOMELESS SHELTERS POLICY & PROCEDURE MANUAL	ISSUED 6/1/02	REVISED 4/09	CHAPTER 1	SECTION 1.1
CHAPTER Chapter 1. Introduction		SUBJECT General			

Good nutrition, the development of desirable eating habits, and learning about food choices are vital building blocks for children. Provisions must be made to ensure that these building blocks are in place in order to promote good health throughout life.

Those responsible for feeding children in emergency/homeless shelters have an important responsibility to:

- Serve nutritious and attractive meals in congregate or group settings that meet children's nutritional needs;
- Make meal time a pleasant and sociable experience; and
- Not charge or collect payment for the meals served to Program participants.

Sharing in the responsibility is the staff of the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). The CACFP is a United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) program that is administrated by the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services – Bureau of Community Food and Nutrition Assistance (MDHSS-BCFNA).

Together, the MDHSS-BCFNA and emergency/homeless shelters can maintain a high quality of care. This policy and procedure manual is designed to give emergency/homeless shelters instructions on how to operate the CACFP and serve wholesome and attractive meals that meet the nutritional needs of the children in their care.